

PLINIUS

P8

Stereo Power Amplifier



INSTRUCTION MANUAL

REFINED AUDIO EQUIPMENT



MANUFACTURED WITH PRIDE IN NEW ZEALAND

CONGRATULATIONS on your decision to become the proud owner of this
Plinius P8 Power Amplifier.

This manual has been prepared to help you understand the operation of your amplifier, and to provide information about its design and the variety of ways it may be used.

We have designed and manufactured this amplifier to reproduce your favourite music faithfully and accurately. With a little care and a full understanding of the operating recommendations in this manual, your Plinius P8 Power Amplifier will provide years of high-quality, trouble-free performance.

Serial Number:

Date of Manufacture:

Final Test Certified By:

IMPORTANT: PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO READ THIS MANUAL
THOROUGHLY BEFORE USING YOUR AMPLIFIER.

CONTENTS

Introduction	Page 3
Precautions	Page 5
Amplifier Features – Front Panel	Page 6
Amplifier Features – Rear Panel	Page 7
Installation and Operation	Page 9
Input/Output Connection	Page 10
P8 Features	Page 12
Loudspeaker Selection	Page 13
Specifications	Page 14
Index	Page 15
Contact Details	Page 16

PRECAUTIONS

Please take special note of the following precautions before operating your new amplifier:

- The Plinius P8 Power Amplifier can deliver in excess of 175 watts into 8 ohms. This amplifier is also capable of a very large peak current delivery.
- The Plinius P8 Power Amplifier operates in Class AB. It is capable of generating heat that could have an adverse effect on other electronic equipment, furniture, etc. DO NOT leave flammable material on the amplifier whilst running, as this could pose a serious fire risk.
- This amplifier operates at hazardous voltage levels. We recommend that any work requiring removal of the lid be referred to a suitably qualified and experienced service technician.
- DO NOT attempt to connect any input of this amplifier to its own outputs.
- DO NOT earth any output terminal or connect any of these terminals together without following the instructions in this manual or seeking qualified assistance.
- DO NOT place this amplifier in any position where liquids, or any foreign material may accidentally enter it.
- DO NOT connect any voltage source, short circuit, earth/ground or appliance (other than suitable high fidelity loudspeakers) to the amplifier output terminals.

AMPLIFIER FEATURES – FRONT PANEL



FRONT PANEL LAYOUT SHOWING DISPLAY LED

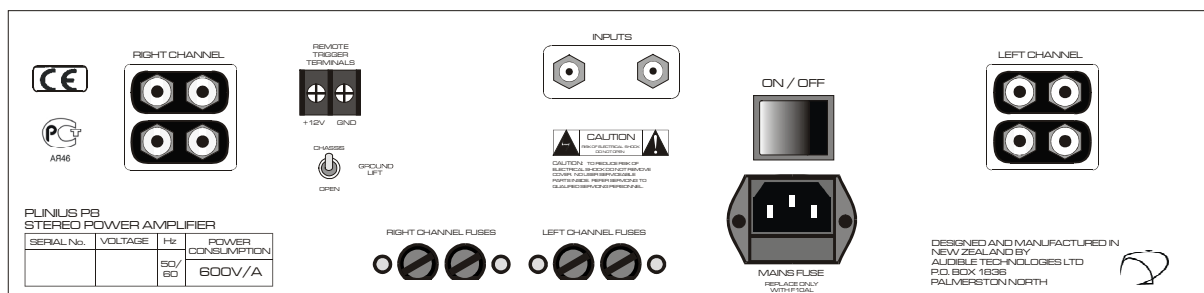
DISPLAY LED

An LED on the front panel indicates that the power is on. When first switched on, the display LED will pulse for ten seconds - this is an initialisation sequence, after which the LED remains lit during the time the amplifier is powered on. Whenever remote trigger is activated the LED will dim.

AMPLIFIER FEATURES – REAR PANEL

This panel incorporates the terminals for connecting the input signal from the preamplifier, outputs to the loudspeakers, and mains supply.

Please remember that your Plinius P8 Power Amplifier is a high quality electronic instrument capable of an exceptional level of performance. Be sure that you understand your system's requirements fully before you make any connection to this amplifier.



Rear Panel Showing Input And Output Terminals, Remote Trigger, Ground Lift Switch, Mains Switch And Mains Socket.

MAINS SWITCH

The heavy-duty rocker switch in the centre of the panel turns the Mains/Line Power to the amplifier ON or OFF. The amplifier draws a moderately high current when switched on, so it is not good practice to rapidly turn the Mains switch on and off repeatedly.

INPUT TERMINALS

The input terminals for your Plinius P8 Power Amplifier are easily accessible at the top centre of the rear panel. These standard RCA terminals are for use with unbalanced signals (single ended RCA) from a line level output preamplifier. Consult your **PLINIUS** dealer for further advice if required.

OUTPUT TERMINALS

Connections for the loudspeakers are provided on the left and right sides of the rear panel. Two parallel pairs of five way binding posts for each channel are fitted – these provide ease of use with bi-wiring and multiple cables requiring a large contact area.

GROUND LIFT SWITCH

This switch is located below the remote trigger terminals, and allows the signal ground to be disconnected from the chassis. In some installations a hum loop may exist due to duplicate ground paths from different equipment. Use this switch to remove the connection from 0V to ground thus allowing some flexibility in your particular set-up.

REMOTE TRIGGER TERMINALS

In order to integrate more effectively into a home theatre system, the Plinius P8 has remote trigger terminals fitted to the rear panel. By connecting a processor with a 5-12V remote trigger signal to these terminals, the P8 can be put in and out of standby/mute by the processor to which it is connected. When in standby/mute the amplifier draws less current and will operate at minimum temperature. The output relays are also open, disconnecting the loudspeakers. This may be of advantage in a multi-amplifier and/or remote installations. The standby/mute mode can only be activated via the remote trigger terminals.

MAINS POWER CORD IEC SOCKET

This connector is where the mains supply cable from your wall connects to the amplifier. You will notice that a fuse holder is mounted within this connection, and it holds a mains fuse to provide surge and overload protection for your amplifier.

RAIL FUSES

These tubular fuse holders house the positive and negative rail protection fuses. Depress and turn anti-clockwise to open. An LED is fitted next to each fuse holder to indicate a blown fuse.

INSTALLATION AND OPERATION

PLACEMENT AND VENTILATION

Your Plinius P8 may operate at a moderately high temperature, especially when being driven hard. The ideal location is upon a rigid stand, or floor mounted away from direct contact with any temperature sensitive materials or deep pile carpets. Ventilation through and around the amplifier should also be kept unimpeded, so ensure that the heat vents (slots in the lid and base) are not covered or restricted in any way.

The Plinius P8 design incorporates a very high level of mechanical de-coupling of the input and output. It can however still be influenced by acoustical feedback in the operating environment. The use of acoustic cones, or a suitably spiked amplifier stand or table, may further enhance the performance of this amplifier. Consult your **PLINIUS** dealer for further advice if required.

MAINS VOLTAGE CONNECTION

Firstly, check that the mains supply voltage printed on the rear of this amplifier is similar to the mains supply voltage in your area. If in doubt, please consult your **PLINIUS** dealer.

Mains supply power connection is via the supplied plug-in lead. A standard IEC socket connects the mains power at the amplifier end, while a local mains plug is required at the wall end.

The wiring code used inside all Plinius product is:

Green to Earth/Ground

Blue to Neutral

Brown to Phase/Live

Should a 'local' plug need fitting to the wall end of the lead, ensure that a suitably qualified service technician wires the plug correctly.

IMPORTANT: **DO NOT POWER UP YOUR AMPLIFIER UNTIL YOU HAVE CONNECTED YOUR INPUT/OUTPUTS CORRECTLY FOR YOUR SYSTEM, (AS EXPLAINED IN THE NEXT SECTION).**

INPUT / OUTPUT CONNECTION

It is important that you connect your loudspeakers (outputs) and preamplifier (inputs) to the Plinius P8 Power Amplifier correctly to ensure the amplifier is not damaged, and sounds its best with your system. Now that you have read and familiarised yourself with the connections on the back of the amplifier, as covered in the previous section, we will describe in detail how to connect the amplifier to your system.

Connect your preamplifier to the RCA inputs on the back of the Plinius P8. Make sure you connect the red coded cable to the red RIGHT RCA input, and the black (or white) cable to the black LEFT RCA input. Also make sure the RCA connectors are a snug fit and are inserted all the way in.

Next, connect your loudspeaker wires to the output posts. Connect your right loudspeaker (i.e. the one on the right of you when seated in your normal listening position) to the right output terminals, ensuring that the red positive (+) terminal is connected to the red terminal on your loudspeaker. Do the same with the black or negative (-) terminals.

TERMINATION QUALITY

Quality of the connections must be examined to ensure that high-performance, trouble-free operation is enjoyed. Check that the connections are tight but do not over tighten. If bare wires are used make sure that no loose strands of wire short across the other terminals or the amplifier chassis. When using plugs such as bananas, be sure to use good quality plugs with a firm fit.

BI-WIRING

Bi-wiring uses two pairs of loudspeaker cables for each channel loudspeaker. You will notice that the rear panel of your Plinius P8 has two pairs of output terminals for this purpose. When using bi-wires, always connect positive (+) to positive (+) and the same for the negative (-) terminals.

PHASING (OR POLARITY)

It is important to achieve good stereo imaging in your listening room. By observing the wiring instructions above, each power amplifier/loudspeaker combination should be in phase. If you experience poor stereo image and/or a lack of bass, check that the loudspeaker wiring has been connected correctly. We recommend that you use one of the easily obtainable 'test discs' to help you ensure both phasing and channel orientation are correct. If in doubt, consult your **PLINIUS** dealer for advice.

Naturally it is also important to make sure all the leads carrying signals for the RIGHT channel loudspeaker are connected to the RIGHT input to the amplifier from your preamplifier or CD player etc. Signals for the LEFT channel should be wired in a similar fashion.

CONNECTING THE MAINS SUPPLY

Now that your Plinius P8 Power Amplifier is configured correctly, the mains cable can be plugged into the IEC socket on the back of the amplifier. Turn on the power switch on the rear panel. The power LED will pulse for ten seconds as the internal microprocessor allows the internal circuitry to stabilise. You can now enjoy your new Plinius P8 Power Amplifier.

WARM-UP PERIOD

You will find that the Plinius P8 will become noticeably 'purer' in sound after being on for a period of time. We usually recommend waiting at least 24 hours before expecting the best quality of sound reproduction from your amplifier. Also, as the Plinius P8 uses very little power while on, we suggest leaving the unit turned on so that it will always be at it's sonic best.

P8 FEATURES

FUSE PROTECTION

When any rail fuse is damaged one or more fuse warning LED's will light. These LED's are located next to the fuse that has blown. To replace the fuse, steady the amplifier, then firmly push in the round fuse cap with your fingers. When the cap cannot push in any further, rotate the cap anticlockwise (to the left) until it comes to a stop. Release inward pressure on the fuse cap and it can now be removed from the amplifier. If any of the rail fuses need to be replaced, do so only with 7.5 amp normal blow fuses.

To re-fit the fuse, insert the fuse and gently turn it as far as possible anticlockwise (to the left). Now push the fuse cap in firmly, then turn clockwise (to the right) until it comes to a stop. Release inward pressure on the cap and the fuse will be fitted securely.

IMPORTANT: **DO NOT FIT A FUSE WITH A HIGHER RATING.**

Note that fuse failure may indicate a severe problem. Check all speakers and speaker cables for damage/short circuit, etc. Should the amplifier continue to suffer rail fuse failure, contact your **PLINIUS** dealer.

MAINS/LINE FUSE

A Mains/Line fuse is fitted within the IEC socket on the rear of the amplifier. A small drawer at the bottom of this socket may be removed (after the IEC plug is removed) by levering it out with a flat blade screwdriver. The fuse fitted should be rated at no greater than 10 amps normal blow.

IMPORTANT: **DO NOT FIT A FUSE WITH A HIGHER RATING.**

In the unusual event that this fuse should blow, you must first establish the cause of this failure (such as power surges, damaged mains cable, etc.) before replacing the fuse with one of the same rating and type. Should the amplifier continue to suffer mains fuse failure, contact your **PLINIUS** dealer.

LOUDSPEAKER SELECTION

Your Plinius P8 Power Amplifier is designed for use with high fidelity loudspeakers. It should not be used to operate any other type of appliance or equipment.

Choice of loudspeakers is one of personal taste, providing the chosen loudspeakers are suitable for use with your amplifier. Be certain that your loudspeakers can handle most of the rated output power of this amplifier. You may find loudspeaker specifications confusing or misleading, so you should discuss this with your audio dealer prior to purchase. As a general rule, the use of high power (200 Watt RMS or greater) loudspeakers is recommended and desirable. However, our experience indicates that medium to low power loudspeakers (100 to 200 Watt RMS) are quite often suitable for use on this amplifier, provided the volume is maintained at a level where no distortion is audible.

Impedance of the loudspeaker load is important to ensure the rated performance of this amplifier. Any combination of loudspeakers may be used, but the total average impedance load for each channel should be within a range of 4 to 8 ohms. Again, if you have doubts about the impedance of your loudspeaker configuration, we recommend you speak to your **PLINIUS** dealer.

SPECIFICATIONS

200-WATTS RMS PER CHANNEL INTO 8 OHMS.

BOTH CHANNELS DRIVEN FROM 20Hz TO 20kHz AT LESS THAN 0.2% TOTAL HARMONIC DISTORTION.

- **FREQUENCY RESPONSE:** 20Hz to 20kHz ± 0.2 dB. -3dB at 5Hz and -3dB at 70kHz.
- **DISTORTION:** Typically $< 0.05\%$ THD at rated power. 0.2% THD and IM worst case prior to clipping.
- **4 OHM POWER:** 300 Watts per channel or greater.
- **CURRENT OUTPUT:** 40A short duration peak per channel. Fuse protected.
- **SLEWING:** 50V/ μ s.
- **HUM & NOISE:** 90dB below rated output 20Hz to 20kHz unweighted.
- **INPUT SENSITIVITY:** 1.75V RMS for rated output at 1kHz.
- **GAIN:** 27dB.
- **INPUT IMPEDANCE:** 47k Ω .
- **HEIGHT:** 120mm (4 3/4")
- **WIDTH:** 450mm (17 3/4")
- **DEPTH:** 385mm (15 1/4")
- **WEIGHT:** 14kg (30lbs)

INDEX

Bi-wiring	Page 10
Date of Manufacture	Page 3
Front Panel Layout.....	Page 6
Fuse Protection	Page 12
IEC Power Connector.....	Pages 8,11
Input Terminals	Pages 8,11
Loudspeaker Impedance	Page 13
Loudspeaker Power	Page 13
Mains/Line Fuse.....	Page 12
Mains Supply Connection.....	Page 11
Mains Switch	Page 7
Operating Temperature	Pages 5,9
Output Terminals.....	Pages 7,10
Phasing.....	Page 10
Placement.....	Pages 5,9
Rail Fuses	Pages 8,12
Rear Panel Layout.....	Page 7
Remote Trigger	Page 8
Safety Precautions.....	Page 5
Serial Number	Page 3
Terminations	Page 10
Ventilation.....	Pages 5,9
Warm-Up Period	Page 11

CONTACT DETAILS

All operational, technical and descriptive material published here is subject to change at any time without notice. For further product information or queries, please contact us at the address below.

PLINIUS products are designed and manufactured by:

**Audible Technologies Ltd.
P.O. Box 1836
Palmerston North
New Zealand**

Phone: 64 6 354 8583
Facsimile: 64 6 354 8586
Email: info@pliniusaudio.com
Internet: www.pliniusaudio.com

©2003 Audible Technologies.